

Torii Teller

Volume 46 Number 13

Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

March 30, 2001

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All shook up

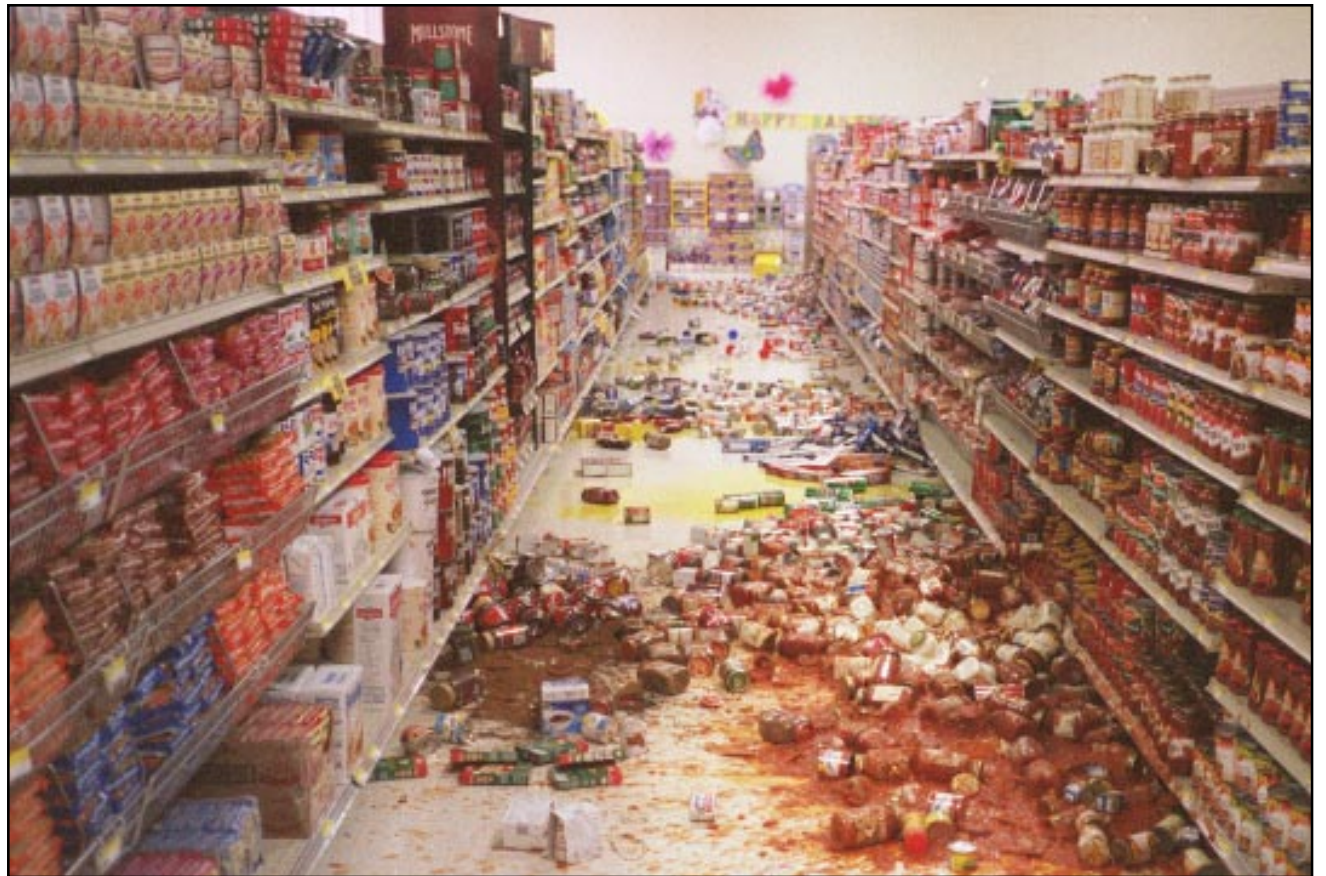


photo by Ray Talavera

The Commissary sustained more than \$25,000 in product loss due to an earthquake that hit Iwakuni March 24 at 3:28 p.m. It registered 5.2 on the Richter scale. Store employees and volunteers worked until midnight to clean up the mess to open the store the next day. see **EARTHQUAKE** Page 6

ACE-Asia arrives on MCAS Iwakuni

by Sgt. Michael Wiener
Media Chief

Members of the Aerosol Characterization Experiments-Asia project group arrived at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni last week to begin their 40-day study of dust particles in the atmosphere.

"The experiments are designed to increase understanding of how atmospheric aerosol particles affect the Earth's climate system," said David Evans, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration assistant administrator. "These experiments improve the ability of models to predict the influences of aerosols on the Earth's radiation balance."

Atmospheric aerosols are very fine particles suspended in air formed by dispersal of material at the Earth's surface or by reaction of different

gases in the atmosphere, according to the ACE-Asia website. The particles are the result of burning fossil fuels, oxidation of volatile organic compounds, soot from fires, and wind blown mineral dust. Although making up only a very small amount of atmospheric mass, they have the potential to significantly influence the amount of sunlight reaching the Earth's surface, and therefore climate.

The multi-national group will be making flights in their EC-130 and Twin Otter planes off the coasts of Japan and Korea to collect samples.

"The Twin Otter is similar to our C-12," said Gunnery Sgt. Rose Cole, airfield operations, "but the planes have been modified so much for the experiments that they look nothing like any other plane here."

"Asian cities are large producers of material that gets caught up in major dust storms which

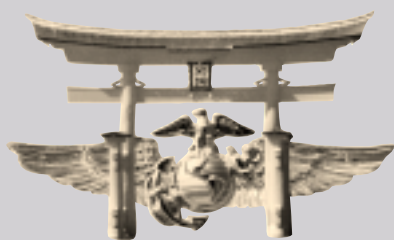
lift vast amounts of aerosols high into the atmosphere," said Jarvis Moyers, director of the Atmospheric Sciences Division at the National Science Foundation. "The aerosols from these Asian sources are transported from the continent vast distances across the Pacific Ocean sometimes even reaching the West Coast of North America."

Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni was selected as their study site due to the location and airfield capabilities.

The project group is supported by scientists and researchers from Australia, China, Taipei, France, Germany, Japan, South Korea, United Kingdom and the United States. Susan Carty, a middle school science teacher from West Chester, Pa., will also be onboard.

For more information on the studies, visit <http://saga.pmel.noaa.gov/aceasia/AAIntro.html>.

Torii Teller



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All queries concerning news and editorial content should be directed to the Public Affairs Office, Building 360, Room 7, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan.

Is there an event you want covered for the *Torii Teller*? Do you have an opinion to be heard? Does your unit have anything newsworthy to report? If so, we want to hear from you, call 253-5344 or e-mail olmsteadj@iwakuni.usmc.mil.

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School of hard knocks

by Sgt. Maj. Stephen H. Mellinger
Marine Forces Pacific Sergeant Major

CAMP H.M. SMITH, Hawaii — Have you ever wondered why people choose to learn life's most valuable lessons the hard way? Most of us insist on enrolling into the school of hard knocks instead of relying on the wisdom of others who know what's best for us.

As a youngster growing up on a farm, I didn't accept my buddy's wisdom concerning electric fences. He and I were playing in the field when I had to relieve myself. He noticed that I was taking aim at the strand of wire of an electric fence. "Steve," he said, "You really don't want to do that. The electricity will travel from the wire to you and shock the heck out of you!"

Call me stubborn (or stupid), but I didn't heed his advice. After all, who died and made him the "electrical expert?" So without hesitation I took aim and let it fly. Big Mistake!

It was several minutes before my eyes refocused and I was able to pick myself up off of the ground. Now that's truly a school of hard knocks lesson that I will never forget.

There's one of life's lessons that too many Marines seem to want to learn the hard way. It concerns the combination of driving and drinking.

In the first quarter of this year eight Marines lost their lives needlessly in vehicle accidents. Alcohol was a contributing factor in most of those fatalities.

How tragic it is that each year the Corps loses so many outstanding Marines because they chose the school of hard knocks to learn not to drink and drive. And I'm not just speaking about losing them to death or serious injuries that end their careers. I'm also referring to those decent Marines with outstanding service records and many with great families who learn the hard way that a DUI can end their military career.

What happens to a family when the military member (financial provider) receives a DUI? First, they stand to lose money from a stripe or two being taken away. Next, will their budget afford an insurance premium increase of up to several thousand dollars per year? Possible suspended driving privileges for a year is another great hardship thrust onto their families. For those of you who don't believe it'll never happen to you, read on.

There was a staff sergeant (stationed on Okinawa on an accompanied tour). He had a wife and four children, coached children's sports, was active in the church and in short was a role model

see *OPINION* Page 4

Corps News

Marines star in FOX show BOOT CAMP

by Sgt. Steven Williams
MCRD San Diego

RECRUITING STATION SAN DIEGO, Calif. — Three former Marine drill instructors and one former Marine clicked into DI mode for the new FOX reality-style television series *BOOT CAMP*, set to debut March 28.

The *BOOT CAMP* drill instructors took 16 contestants, looking to win \$500,000, into a whole new world.

"As soon as I saw that white bus come in, it really didn't matter that they were contestants," said Gunnery Sgt. Annette Taylor, a *BOOT CAMP* drill instructor from Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., who served as a DI at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., and Officer Candidates School, Quantico, Va. "They were just like my recruits and candidates."

"We became their mother, father, scholar, teacher, and psychologist all built into one," added CWO-2 Tony Rosenbun, another *BOOT CAMP* drill instructor from Camp Pendleton, who once served as a DI.

The Marine Corps assisted LMNO Productions in finding the "drill instructors" for the show to "highlight the effectiveness of Marine Corps leadership, discipline and motivation," said Capt. Shawn D. Haney, the deputy director for the Motion Picture and TV Liaison Office in Los Angeles. "Key elements of the show will be the DIs' insights and their on-camera comments during training. Each episode

will feature some sort of mission in which teamwork is essential."

The Corps also added two amphibious assault vehicles and two Humvees to the production.

The TV drill instructors pushed the contestants through seven missions and critiqued them upon completion. Eight episodes document these trials and tribulations as the contestants vie for the cash prize. But, according to the drill instructors, they got more than a shot at money.

"They came there with greed of getting a pot of \$500,000," said Taylor. "They left gaining much more than money could ever buy them."

"We touched them," said Sgt. Maj. David A. Francisco, a *BOOT CAMP* drill instructor from Recruiting Station San Diego. "We changed those people's lives. If we did our job right, 99 percent of them are changed forever."

Francisco and Rosenbun said the values and lessons the contestants learned will carry over to prospective Marine Corps applicants and their parents watching the show.

"I think there are a lot of people out there who want that same change," said Francisco.

"This will be a positive tool for the Marine Corps because of the success stories," said Rosenbun. "Each of them learned something and gained something. They got self-respect and self-confidence."

However, he also stressed that he hopes the viewing audience is able to separate the differences be-

see *FOX SHOW* Page 4

Water contaminants cleared up

by Cpl. Kurt Fredrickson
Torii Teller Staff

Almost anything can dissolve into drinking water without changing its crystal clear appearance – such as lead, but tests performed aboard the air station allow this potential contaminant to be detected.

During a recent test, some samples from Midrise 1209 and both Matthew C. Perry Schools had lead levels which exceeded the level that calls for action to be taken.

According to Navy Lt. Bill Prout, assistant facilities officer and environmental director, the levels found at those locations are not immediately harmful, but are enough to trigger preventative measures and awareness for the occupants and users of those buildings.

Precautionary measures, implemented by Preventative Medicine

and the Environmental Division, have ensured there is no health risk to the community.

As a precautionary measure personnel at M.C. Perry Schools and individuals living in Midrise 1209 have been informed on how they can be effectively reduce lead and copper contaminants in their drinking water.

They can do that by flushing their tap for a few minutes each morning to cycle fresh water into the pipes.

Water sitting for an extended period of time, in some cases overnight, can absorb metals from the pipes and fixtures or the solder used to connect them, according to Prout. After the water line has been flushed, the water will be fine for the remainder of the day.

According to Ralph Willis, drinking water program manager, some past samples collected from M.C. Perry Schools may have been from taps that were seldom used, such as

a janitor's closet, so the contaminants leached into the water over an extended period of time.

"We have found in all cases that flushing the taps for 30 seconds to 2 minutes has totally eliminated any problems with lead and copper," Willis said. "We have not exceeded acceptable levels for any of the other listed contaminants."

According to Willis, one of the most common problems is a brownish discoloration of water in the older buildings due to old iron pipes. It is not harmful and clears up once the water has been flushed from the pipes in the morning.

To ensure water aboard the air station is safe to drink, the environmental division here tests samples regularly for a wide variety of contaminants.

"We test for heavy metals annually, lead and copper every six months and for 19 different pesti-

cides quarterly," Willis said. "We also test for things such as asbestos fibers and trihalomethanes."

All water has some contaminants, according to Willis. The problem is when drinking water exceeds any one of the acceptable contaminant levels.

If 10 percent of the drinking water samples exceed the acceptable level for lead or copper we perform additional testing to confirm the laboratory's analysis. If the lab report is confirmed to be accurate then we must implement a public notification and education program.

According to Willis, if consumers are concerned with lead and copper in their water, they can flush their tap in the morning before using it. Flushing has been proven to be an effective means of reducing lead and copper contaminants in drinking water.

Bulletin board offers solutions

compiled by
Torii Teller Staff

The Iwakuni Community Bulletin Board is located on the Air Station's Intranet. It was started in mid February to provide increased opportunity for the community to provide customer input on services provided and propose solutions to problems.

This came about from a strategic planning session held by senior air station department heads in October 2000.

"In the span of four weeks, the volume of traffic on the bulletin board exceeded all predictions. Departments have tried to respond to the comments, complaints, and concerns in a rapid manner, but have been overwhelmed," said John Kinley, Installations Business Management officer. "As a result, some activities have found themselves spending an inordinate amount of time answering the same question, or a variation of it, several times."

To facilitate both the manpower and amount of time it takes to respond, changes were made to make the system work.

These changes included the timeliness of responses and the need for a signature for any reply to be made.

"The individual department will determine timeliness, but the IBM Office will monitor and serve as honest broker to ensure that all signed questions receive an answer," said Kinley. "The Commanding Officer will be informed if there are serious delays in providing responses."

Anonymity will continue to be available. If you wish to air a comment or concern and not have your name posted, then you do not need to

sign your e-mail and the anonymous posting will be done. Signed postings will receive a response from the appropriate department on the bulletin board.

When posting an issue or concern, it is recommended that you provide your proposed solution. If it is important to you or if you are close or familiar with the issue or concern, then you should be able to offer an improvement. Your solution may not be the ultimate course of action, but your idea may serve as a starting point for others who can then modify your idea to an even better solution.

According to Kinley, the bulletin board will continue to serve as a place to voice opinions and ideas for improvement of the Iwakuni Community.

"We hope you will continue to take advantage of this forum. Working together for the betterment of the Air Station, we can truly become Team Iwakuni," he concluded.

Tips/Instructions on using the ICBB

1. On the Intranet find and select ICBB.
2. To read, select any comment or subject title.
3. To post a new subject (comment), select "new message" and type in a "Title," "your message" and then select "submit".
4. To post a comment concerning other peoples comments, select the top first subject, not one of the lower comments (that may have inspired you), then type your message and submit.

News Briefs

Fire Hydrant Test

The Fire Station will conduct its semiannual fire hydrant flow tests on April 9-12, 16-19 and 23-25 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Residents can expect a little rusty water in faucets when these tests are conducted. Run the water until it becomes clear, usually in a few minutes. The water is safe to drink. For more information call the Utilities Office at 253-3044.

Daylight Savings

Beginning Sunday at 2 a.m., the United States will go on Daylight Saving Time. Because there is no such system in Japan, the East Coast of the United States will be 13 hours behind local time.

Appointments

Medical and Dental guidelines require that residents with appointments arrive 15 minutes early to complete necessary paperwork.

Lost and Found

The Provost Marshal's Office has many lost and found items, such as wallets, credit cards, keys, cameras and other miscellaneous items that need to be returned to their rightful owners. For more information call PMO at 253-3471.

VMFA-242 Bats arrive on Iwakuni

by Cpl. Kurt Fredrickson
Torii Teller Staff

The Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 Bats arrived at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni March 10 for a six-month tour under the Unit Deployment Program.

The unit hails from Miramar, Calif., and has 12 F/A-18D Hornet aircraft and approximately 180 personnel.

"We are here to be ready for any contingency operation that may occur," said Capt. Anthony Baggs, VMFA(AW)-242 schedule writer. "As usual we will be training our new

pilots and weapons systems officers."

According to Baggs, the squadron has many new pilots. The area is also very different from training areas in the U.S.

"It's good because it's a different area to work in so we get a lot of experience talking to the Japanese and Korean air traffic controllers," Baggs said.

"We're trying to do a lot of training," he said. "We don't have any family to go home to, so the Marines are spending a lot of time at work. There is a lot more focus and attention directed to planning."

According to Baggs, the variety

of weather in Iwakuni, from sun to rain, will test the all weather capabilities of the Bats.

The squadron was last here throughout the summer of 1999. According to Baggs, many of the Marines are on their first deployment outside the United States. While stationed here, working hard will also be balanced by enjoying all Japan has to offer.

"I want to travel and visit cities like Tokyo, Fukuoka and Hiroshima," said Lance Cpl. Jason Plemons, VMFA(AW)-242 embark clerk. "I want something to talk about when I get back to the States."

According to Plemons, he was

only with the squadron a short time before getting the word that he was going to Iwakuni.

"Before I had the chance to settle down in San Diego I got up and left," Plemons said. "It was like my first duty station was over here instead of in Miramar."

According to Baggs, being deployed to Japan is a good opportunity for Marines to see places they would not normally have a chance to see, including Korea and Australia.

"It's not San Diego but I'm going to take advantage of it," Plemons said. "I'm going to try and see everything I can."

OPINION from Page 2

in every way.

He was attending his SNCO Academy's Mess Night (Camp Hansen club) one day prior to him being graduated as number one in his class.

As a rule he never drank, but he did this night. Only five beers did he have, but he carried his last one into his vehicle to drive back to his barracks (just three blocks away) from the SNCO club.

A military policeman on patrol observed him getting into his vehicle, with an open beer bottle, and driving out of the parking lot. The rest, as we say, is history!

He was charged with DUI and dropped from the SNCO Academy (one day before graduating as "honor man") with a double-signed fitness report. His driving privileges were revoked for one year (his wife didn't drive). Last, but not least, he "was" selected for gunnery sergeant on that year's board.

He had planned to make the Corps a 30-year career. However, because of this offense his promotion to gunny was denied and he was forced to retire as a staff sergeant with 20 years of service.

Please indulge me as I attempt to hammer home this Marine's ultimate school of hard knocks lesson learned. Using a hypothetical 30-year formula from the time of his retirement

(date of his retirement was changed to Dec. 31, 2000, to keep the tracking for you simple. Also, I'm not including any BAH, BAS, etc. in any of my computations), you can see what the DUI ultimately cost him and his family.

He was forced to retire on Dec. 31, 2000. His promotion to gunny would have been Jan. 1, 2001. The now retired staff sergeant, let's say, has a life expectancy of approximately 30 years (2031).

The staff sergeant will receive a monthly check for the next 30 years at the rate of 50 percent of his base salary at time of retirement. Using only our current pay scale he would receive a yearly retirement salary of \$14,207.40. He would earn \$426,222 over the next 30 years.

Let's say that if he had not received the DUI he would have been promoted to rank of gunnery sergeant Jan. 1, 2001, and had a continued military career. I estimate that it would have taken him three years (rough guess) before he would have been promoted to the rank of first sergeant.

During the time he would have been a gunny, he would have received a yearly base salary of \$34,689.60 (gunnery sergeant over 22 years active service). His three years as a gunny would have earned him \$104,068.80.

Now let's say this Marine got promoted to first sergeant on Jan. 1, 2004. He would have received a yearly base salary of \$39,337.20

(first sergeant over 24 years active service) for a three-year total of \$118,011.60.

Now let's figure that after three years he was promoted to rank of sergeant major on Jan. 1, 2007. For his next four years (sergeant major over 26 years active service) he earns a total of \$194,918.40 (yearly base salary of \$48,729.60).

Now, totaling up 20 years of sergeant's major retirement earnings (based on 75 percent of \$4,060 base pay) it comes to \$730,944.

Positive assets for that staff sergeant for 30 years (retirement only) would be \$426,222.

Negative assets for him (only base pay and retirement pay) over the same 30-year time frame would be:

\$104,068.80 lost as active duty gunnery sergeant (three years base pay only)

\$118,011.60 lost as active duty first sergeant (three years base pay only)

\$194,918.40 lost as active duty sergeant major (four years base pay only)

\$730,944 lost as 30-year retired sergeant major pay (for 20 years)

That one DUI (using my 30-year example) ended up costing that Marine and his family a minimum of three-quarters of a million dollars!

That school of hard knocks lesson has to hurt even worse than an electric fence experience! Think about that the next time you want to drink and drive.

FOX SHOW from Page 2

tween FOX BOOT CAMP and Marine Corps recruit training.

"When the recruits of TV BOOT CAMP left, they went back to whatever job it was they had. They weren't signing a contract for Uncle Sam."

They also didn't get the warfare training Marine recruits get. In fact, there was never any objective to mold them in any way like Marines

are formed. The DIs agreed that their primary goal was to instill the basics of teamwork, mission accomplishment and individual improvement.

Francisco spent the majority of his career with 1st Marine Division at Camp Pendleton before he became a drill instructor at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. There, Francisco went all the way from being a "hat" on the drill field to the first sergeant of Drill Instruc-

tor School at MCRD. He lives in Oceanside, Calif., with his wife and two children.

Rosenbum is a student in a 14-month program at Park University. Following graduation from the program, he will return to his job as a utilities officer. He lives in Carlsbad, Calif., with his wife and two children.

Taylor is the Base equal opportunities advisor at Camp Pendleton. She stepped directly off the grinder

with recruits and officers on the East Coast to the TV BOOT CAMP. She is working on a degree at Park University and lives aboard Camp Pendleton with her two children.

The drill instructors may never see those 16 contestants again, but they said just as hundreds of recruits left recruit depots different and better people from experience with their DIs, so did the contestants.



ABOVE: *Riding runs in the Hazen family. Here Erika's son Hans, controls his pony at the Iwakuni Riding Club.*

LEFT: *Erika Hazen, former professional rodeo rider and current M.C. Perry High science teacher, gives Dr. Hiro one his favorite treats — a carrot.*

Teacher whispers to horses



photos by Cpl. Joe Lindsay

Doctor Hiro is one 13 horses stabled at the Iwakuni Riding Club where Hazen keeps sharp on her riding skills.

by Cpl. Joe Lindsay
Torii Teller Staff

There's an M.C. Perry High School science teacher aboard the high school who's true calling has nothing to do with test tubes and microscopes.

Erica Hazen, a former professional rodeo rider, loves horses, and she's even rented a home across the street from a local Iwakuni stable, so she can be closer to them.

"I've had horses since I was 2 years old," said Hazen, Miss Rodeo California 1979 and 1st runner-up Miss Rodeo America 1979. "Horses are in my blood."

The San Luis Obispo, Calif., native has owned as many as 13 horses at one time, and her biggest concern moving to Japan, five months ago, wasn't whether she would adapt to a new culture, but whether or not she could own a horse here.

"I even researched to find out if you could purchase horses in Japan," said Hazen. "I wanted to buy one here, but there aren't really pastures in Japan where you can keep one. I did the next best thing and became a member a local stable."

This isn't Hazen's first time in Japan. In 1972 she spent four months in Fukuoka and two months in Osaka as part the American Rodeo Show.

"We had bulls and cows and bucking broncos," said Hazen. "The Japanese were thrilled to see real American cowboys perform."

Hazen's performing days might not be over though. She's considering competing again, this time not in rodeos, but as part of a Japanese show-jumping team.

"I've always competed in rodeos, so show-jumping will be a new challenge," said Hazen.

Riding seems to run in Hazen's family. Her two sons, Erik, a freshman at M.C. Perry High and Hans, a 5th grader at M.C. Perry Elementary, both competed in junior rodeo competitions in the States.

"Her children are really good with the horses," said Masako Tanaka, owner of the Iwakuni Riding Club where Hazen rides. "I guess they got that from their mother. She is so comfortable riding and being around the horses."

"For some people riding might be a stress relief," said Hazen. "But for me it's not like that. I can't really explain it, but I have to be around horses. I've never been without them."

Earthquake



by Cpl. Joe Lindsay
Torii Teller Staff

The earth shook air station residents here Saturday at 3:28 p.m., but fortunately, no one was seriously injured in the earthquake that measured 5.2 on the Richter Scale.

The same could not be said for residents of Hiroshima, where the quake registered a 6.4 on the Richter scale, as two people lost their lives there.

There have been more than 20 aftershocks since the initial quake Saturday.

"It's the aftershocks that scare me the most," said Petty Officer First class Eric Woodin,

American Forces Network maintenance technician. "I am always expecting the 'big one' to hit again."

Even if the "big one" does hit again, air station residents can be secure in the fact that newer station buildings are built to the highest level of earthquake survivable strength, according to Cmdr. Tony Ermovick, Facilities director.

"They put a very high amount of structural steel reinforcing in the concrete of the buildings here," said Ermovick. "Facilities on the station are constructed under what's called seismic zone 4 standards, which is the highest level of concentration that

can be accomplished throughout the base. But what about the buildings that are older?

"Most older buildings on the station are made of wood frame which is very resilient in earthquakes," said Navy Lt. William Prout, assistant Facilities officer. "Saturday's quake posed no threat to the structural integrity of our buildings."

Though the buildings, and residents, are safe, not all said they felt secure.

"I was scared," said Woodin. "It was embarrassing to admit, but I jumped out of my bed."

Actually, that might not have been a bad idea, according to Prout.

"Many injuries that occur during earthquakes are due to falling debris," Prout said. "People need to get under something sturdy during an earthquake, like a table. Also, if you're inside, stay where you are. Don't run outside. It's better to stay beneath a doorframe or in a corner, away from windows to prevent injury from broken glass."

According to Prout, individuals should avoid going outside during an earthquake should



Damage from the earthquake caused more than \$30,000 worth of product loss to the Marine Corps Exchange, 7-Day store and Commissary. Other structures on base were more fortunate, and sustained only minor damage. No one was seriously injured aboard the air station.



Proper forms get noncombatants

by Cpl. Kurt Fredrickson
Torii Teller Staff

Service members and their families can be better prepared to evacuate in the event of a natural disaster by having one piece of paper filled out within a noncombatant evacuation operation package.

The single form that takes five minutes to fill out can mean the difference between getting family members out of harms way, or having them stay and fill out paperwork. The most important part of a NEO package is the paper

that contains personal information in the database.

Individuals with families should fill out the form regardless of parent command location, quarters and Headquarters, which maintains the database.

The H&HS administration allows them to easily print out the actual NEO.

"Basically a NEO is what makes the base unsafe," said Cpl. Kurt Fredrickson.

"The H&HS admini-



photos by Gunnery Sgt. Shannon Arledge

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away from buildings and ride it out.

There was damage to some pipes, fixtures, doors, windows and a water line breakage, which briefly shut off water to some residents, did occur.

The areas hit hardest on base were the Commissary, 7-day store and the Marine Corps Exchange. Those establishments were immediately closed after the quake, because of items falling off shelves.

Commissary officials estimate the product loss damages between \$25,000 and \$30,000, while the 7-Day store and Marine Corps Exchange both estimated their damages at approximately \$3,000 each.

But earthquake damages can be weighed in much more than financial terms, especially for children, who may experience nightmares, fear of separation or being alone and a general sense of worry.

Residents suffering from feelings of anxiety as a result of the earthquake are encouraged to

contact the Family Counseling Center at 253-4526.

Anyone with structural damage to their residence should report it to the Housing Office at 253-5541.

Those who wish to learn more about earthquakes and what to do in the event of one can log onto www.lafd.org/eqtips.htm.

Richter scale

- 0-4.3** Vibrations are recorded by instruments. People at rest upstairs notice shaking. Shaking felt indoors; hanging objects swing.
- 4.3-4.8** Dishes rattle; standing cars rock; trees shake. Doors swing; liquids spill from glasses; sleepers awake.
- 4.8-6.2** People walk unsteadily; windows break; pictures fall off walls. Difficult to stand; plaster, bricks, and tiles fall; large bells ring.
- 6.2-7.3** Car steering affected; chimneys fall; branches break; cracks in wet ground. General panic; damage to foundations; sand and mud bubble from ground.
*Buildings destroyed; large landslides; water thrown out of rivers.
- 7.3-8.9** Railway tracks bend; roads break up; large cracks appear in ground; rocks fall. Total destruction; “waves” seen on ground surface; river courses altered; vision distorted.
* *Buildings constructed with special anti-earthquake techniques, are able to withstand tremors of up to 8.5 on the Richter scale.*



stants out quick

information for the station NEO

family members aboard the air station, command, should register with Headquarters Squadron administration shop, base in the event of a NEO.

Administration maintains a database that process individuals in the event of an

s for any disaster that would render Cpl. Joel Fletcher, H&HS clerk. Administration shop has the whole pack-

age,” Fletcher said. “Just come in and we will get it right to you. It’s self explanatory.

“No papers or documents are needed to pick up a package. When it is completed they drop it back off at the administration shop on the first floor of the Station Headquarters Building 360,” he said.

“If they are not in the data base when they come through it slows things down,” Fletcher said. “I would say it takes about five minutes to fill out, and it will save a lot of headaches later.”

According to Fletcher, those already in the system will be processed faster and have a higher fight priority.

Claims for earthquake damage

by Cpl. Kurt Fredrickson
Torii Teller Staff

Anyone whose personal property was damaged during Saturday’s magnitude 5.2 earthquake can submit claims to the U.S. Government for reimbursement.

Individuals must submit in a timely and correct manner in order to expedite the payment process.

“We understand that there may be some damage to property and we want to ensure you are taken care of,” said Gunnery Sgt. Dionisios Nicholas, legal services chief. “We have worked out an agreement with Headquarters Marine Corps for an expeditious handling of claims.”

According to Nicholas, all U.S. military or civilian employees of the Air Station, whether they live on or off base, are able to file claims for property lost or damaged due to natural disaster.

However if private insurance covers the claim it must be filed with the insurance company first.

Anyone who feels they need to submit a claim should do an inventory of property loss or damage being very precise in the descriptions of the property and the extent of the damages. If possible supply photos or video of the items.

Claims forms are available from unit legal officers and must be filled out correctly, according to Nicholas.

“Pay attention to the directions of what they are asking, and fill out the form completely and follow the instructions,” Nichols said. “If you have any questions, concerns or comments we are here to serve.”

The two main forms to fill out are the DD Form 1842, claim for personal property against the United States, and the DD Form 1844, schedule of property and claim analysis chart. One contains claim information and another is to list the items being reported.

If some of the damaged items have already been disposed of, there is still the possibility of a refund.

“If you threw away something that broke, you can sign an affidavit to swear it broke,” Nicholas said.

For all claims individuals must prepare a written statement regarding what happened, and submit the required documentation for different categories of property.

Completed forms may be submitted to the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate for processing. For more information call 253-5591.

Spring brings wedding season to Japan

by Cpl. Joe Lindsay
Torii Teller Staff

Spring marks much more than the coming of sunshine and cherry blossoms in Japan. It is also the time when most Japanese weddings take place.

Japanese weddings usually take place at a Shinto shrine, though these shrines are now frequently found in banquet rooms for convenience, according to Miki Inoue, who married her husband Hidetakao in a traditional Japanese

nese ceremony in Iwakuni in 1995.

"Though they are usually performed in the Shinto tradition, ceremonies may also be Christian or Buddhist," said Shinobu Iwata, guest at a recent wedding in Hiroshima. "The ceremony doesn't necessarily need to match the religion of the bride and groom."

Most weddings ceremonies are limited to family members, with friends and co-workers attending the "Kekkon Hiroen," or wedding reception afterwards.

During the wedding ceremony the bride's face is painted white to signify her maiden

status to the gods. She also wears either a white or red kimono, as white and red are considered lucky colors in Japan. The bride also wears an elaborate headpiece.

"The headpiece is meant to hide the woman's 'horns,'" said Iwata. "Her 'horns' are of course

only a figure of speech. By doing this she is showing she will be obedient to her husband during marriage."

The groom wears a black kimono which dawns his family crest.

The actual ceremony is generally short, with a Shinto priest usually blessing all present and the groom reading an oath of commitment to his bride. Then the two alternately drink three cups of sake.

"The drinking of sake symbolizes unity between the bride and groom," said Miho Itoh, guest at a recent wedding in Hiroshima. "When the sake is finished, they are considered to be man and wife."

Afterward, the wedding party goes to the reception, where the newlyweds, especially the bride, may leave several times to change clothes.

"The bride often changes clothes a few times," said Itoh. "She might change into a 'uchikake,' which is a very colorful and beautiful kimono, then a Western-style white wedding gown, and finally she will change into an evening dress."

According to Itoh, the groom typically only changes clothes once, from a kimono to a suit.

During the reception, friends and family members often give speeches and sing karaoke songs dedicated to the newlyweds.

"The receptions are a lot of fun," said Shizumi Tanimoto, guest at a recent wedding in Hiroshima. "It's a chance to let the bride and groom know how happy we are for them."

Guests at the reception are expected to give "goshugi," or cash gift.

"The amount you give depends on how close you are to them," said Iwata. "Japanese weddings can be very expensive, so this is a good way to help out."

According to Iwata, the cash gift is put in an envelope with the givers name on the front.

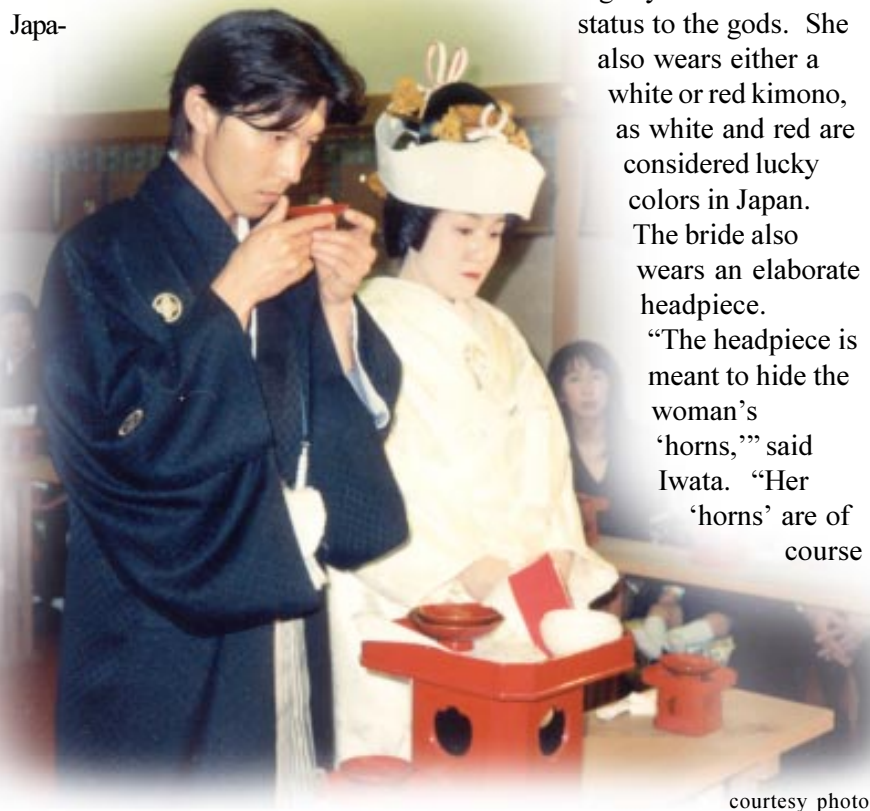
Though Japanese weddings are deeply rooted in tradition, many couples now also perform Western customs, such as exchanging rings, cake cutting and honeymoons.

Some young Japanese couples are also now opting to get married only by filing civil papers.

"It would be a shame if Japanese weddings lost their distinctness," said Mitsuko Sumii, who was married in a traditional Shinto ceremony in the Spring of 1947 to her husband of 54 years, Toshio. "My wedding day was one of the happiest of my life, and I was proud when my two sons and their children also married in the traditional manner."

For now, the tradition still seems secure among the younger generation.

"I definitely want to be married someday in a traditional ceremony," said the 20-year-old Itoh.



courtesy photo

Takahiro Sumi and his bride, Harumi, drink saka as part of the Japanese wedding ceremony ritual. The drinking of sake symbolizes unity between the bride and groom.

Out the gate

Cherry Blossom Festivals

☑ Kamei Park in Otake City

A cherry blossom festival will be held on April 8 from 11 a.m. to approximately 2 p.m. at the Kamei Park in Otake City. Japanese traditional drums, songs and dances will be performed. For more information call Chiaki at 253-6165.

☑ Kirito River in Kudamatsu City

Kirito River Oh! Oh! Fiesta 2001, a cherry blossom festival, is scheduled for April 8 at Kudamatsu City Hall Green Plaza and Kirito riverbed. For more information call Chiaki at 253-6165.

Yabusame

Yabusame, the art of shooting arrows on horse-

back, will be held at Washihara Park in Tsuwano Town in Shimane Prefecture, on April 8 with demonstrations at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. There is no fee involved. For more information call Chiaki at 253-6165.

Tokasai

Tokasai, peach blossom festival, will be held on April 15 from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Itsukushima Shrine. Bugaku, court dances and music, will be demonstrated during the event. For more information call Chiaki at 253-6165.

Hiwatari Shinji

Hiwatari Shinji, a shinto religious service where a priest walks on fire with booted, will be held on April 15 from 11 a.m. at Daisyoin on Miyajima. For more information call Chiaki at 253-6165.

Road Restriction

Due to the cherry blossom season, roads around Kintai Bridge area will be restricted on Saturday, Sunday, April 7, 8, 14 and 15, from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Iwakuni City officials recommend any visitors to Kintai area to take public transportation due to the heavy traffic around the area.



Classified Ads

Vehicles for sale

—1988 Mitsubishi Lancer, good shape, 4-doors, A/C and heater, manual transmission, JCI till February 2002, asking \$750/obo, may sell for less. Call Eve at 253-2600.
 —1988 Honda Civic, 2-door hatchback, black, A/C, JCI till August 2001, \$550. Call Lt.j.g. Lundberg at 253-5528 dwh or 253-2278 awl.
 —1988 Nissan, 4-door sedan, good tires, new battery, AM/FM cassette, A/C, auto, JCI till August 2001, \$1,100/obo. Call Col. Dunn at 253-4211 dwh or 253-3688 awl.
 —1988 Toyota Master Ace Surf, diesel, AM/FM cassette, dual A/C, rear swivel seats, JCI till June 2001, \$600/obo. Call Gunnery Sgt. Elliott at 253-6227 dwh or 253-2118 awl.
 —1989 Honda (Acura) Legend, charcoal grey, leather interior, power everything, sunroof, 18 disk CD changer, JCI till August 2002, \$2,500. Call Maj. Ebert at 253-4689 dwh or 253-2562 awl.

Motorcycle for sale

—1997 Kawasaki Vulcan Classic, 1,500cc, custom mustang seat, custom pipes, windshield, saddlebags, two full face helmets, JCI till November 2001, \$6,500. Call Phil Avery at 253-6827 dwh or 253-2667 awl.

Other items for sale

—Schwinn woman's 10-speed bicycle, great condition, \$80; men's 10-speed bike, almost new, cost over \$300 new, will sell for \$80; Little Tykes play gym w/slide, \$30; Little Tykes chalk board, \$20, other Little Tykes toys; stride rite children's bicycle stroller/trailer, used one year, very nice, cost \$200, will sell for \$80. Call Maj. Canada at 253-2584.
 —ISA V90 internal modem 56K, brandnew package, never opened, \$50; first Holy Communion dress w/veil, size 8, \$25. Call Linda Kostelny at 253-3278.

Free

—Male, white and black lmaso apso mix dog to a loving home, friendly, great temperament, all shots are up to date. Call 253-3588 or stop by the U.S. Army Veterinary Services.

Wanted

—The position of Lone Troop Chairperson for Girl Scouts Iwakuni is open for the year 2001-2002. This volunteer position requires knowledge and experience managing groups of adults with diverse backgrounds with the common goal of "Girl Scouting, where Girls Grow Strong." Without this position filled the Girl Scouts will have no Girl Scouts about MCAS Iwakuni. Call Jackie Lewis at 253-3035.

Job opening

—Matthew C. Perry High School is accepting applications for the position of school registrar (office automation assistant). Applicants should be familiar with data base system. Position will involve interaction with parents, teachers and students. Interested personnel should pick up an application packet at the high school main office. Call 253-5448.
 —Torii Video is accepting applications for assistant manager until filled. Call Jenny Nunu at 253-4700.

MCCS job openings

(The following jobs are open at MCCS Personnel:)

—Desk Clerk Leader, Billeting, NF-02, regular full time.

—Burger King Shift Supervisor, Burger King, NF-02, full time.
 —Retail Area Supervisor, Sound Shop, NF-03, regular full time.
 —Food Service Worker, Auto Mini Mart, NA-02, regular full time.
 —Associate Buyer, Merchandising, NF-03, regular full time.
 —Senior Sales Associate, Sound Shop, NF-02, flexible.
 —Sales Associate/Cashier, Main Exchange, NF-01, regular full time and flexible.
 —Sales Associate/Cashier, S/S 7 Day Store, NF-01, regular part time and flexible.
 —Store Worker, Main Exchange, NA-02, regular full time and flexible.
 —Sales Associate/Cashier, Auto Mini Mart, NF-01, regular full time, part time and flexible.
 —Car Rental/Service Station Attendant, Service Station, NF-01, regular full time.
 —Program Assistant, Child Development Center, CC-1, regular full time and flexible.
 —Recreation Assistant, NF-02, regular full time and flexible.
 —Recreation Attendant, NF-01, regular part time and flexible.

(Pick up a job application in the MCCS Personnel Office, Crossroads Mall second floor, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or call 253-3030.)

—A home visitor position is available in Iwakuni. The requirements are as follows: Knowledge of military system/community resources, licensed LCSW or RN (RN must possess an AA or BS degree in community health, public health or maternal/child nursing), two or more years Postgraduate experience in community health, public health/maternal/child nursing, home visiting or family/child counseling. A driver's license and insurance are required. Only applicants meeting stated contract qualifications will be considered. Call Ms. Lilia M. Blair at 253-6553 or stop by the Community Services Building 411, Room 127.

HRO job openings

—Child Development Education Specialist, GS-1701-9/11, open until filled.
 —Education Technician, GS-1702-04/05, open until filled.
 —Interdisciplinary Engineer and Architect, GS-08XX-07/09/12, open until filled.
 —Child Development Center Director, GS-1701-09, open until filled.
 —Family Child Care Director, GS-1701-09, open until filled.
 —Family Child Care Director, GS-1701-05/07/09, open until filled.
 —Child Development Education Specialist, GS-1701-07, open until filled.
 —Interdisciplinary (Psychologist/Social Worker) GS-018X-11, open until filled.
 —Office Automation Clerk, GS-326-04, open until filled.
 —Air Traffic Control Specialist (Terminal), open until filled.

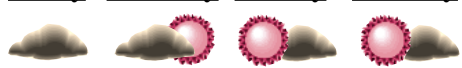
(For additional information and appropriate forms call CHRO, Building 360, Room 32 at 253-6828.)

To submit your ads or announcement ...

Torii Teller accepts ads/announcement for nonprofit organizations and groups only. Briefs run on space-available and time-priority basis. Deadline for briefs is noon Thursday. Torii Teller reserves the right to edit to fit space. To submit, stop by Building 360, Room 7 to fill out a form.

Weekend's Weather

Today Saturday Sunday Monday



Tide Table

	Low tide		High tide	
	Time	Size	Time	Size
March 30	6:38 a.m.	2.73	12:35 a.m.	9.87
	6:50 p.m.	0.94	12:35 p.m.	8.99
March 31	7:20 a.m.	3.72	1:23 a.m.	9.34
	7:38 p.m.	1.52	1:11 p.m.	8.34
April 1	8:14 a.m.	4.69	2:18 a.m.	8.71
	8:32 p.m.	2.16	1:59 p.m.	7.64
April 2	9:38 a.m.	5.35	3:35 a.m.	8.21
	10:02 p.m.	2.59	3:11 p.m.	7.05
April 3	11:44 a.m.	5.09	5:23 a.m.	8.26
	11:50 p.m.	2.29	5:02 p.m.	7.02
April 4	12:56 p.m.	4.08	6:47 a.m.	8.88
	---	---	6:41 p.m.	7.80
April 5	1:08 a.m.	1.48	7:41 a.m.	9.58
	1:51 p.m.	2.29	7:48 p.m.	8.85



Movie Schedule

Friday

10 a.m./7 p.m. On The Waterfront (PG)
 1 p.m./9 p.m. Limit Up (PG-13)
 11 p.m. Desperate Measures (R)

Saturday

10 a.m./7 p.m. Nadine (PG)
 1 p.m./9 p.m. Roxy (PG-13)
 11 p.m. Sisters (R)

Sunday

10 a.m./7 p.m. Bass Pro Hunting And Fishing Series (PG)
 1 p.m./9 p.m. Screwed (PG-13)
 11 p.m. Chill Factor (R)

Monday

10 a.m./7 p.m. The Karate Kid III (PG)
 1 p.m./9 p.m. Loser (PG-13)
 11 p.m. The Best Man (R) Tuesday
 10 a.m./7 p.m. Baby Boom (PG)
 1 p.m./9 p.m. MASK (PG-13)
 11 p.m. Body Heat (R)

Wednesday

10 a.m./7 p.m. Star Trek III (PG)
 1 p.m./9 p.m. The Believers (PG-13)
 11 p.m. Cadillac Ranch (R)

Thursday

10 a.m./7 p.m. And You Thought Your Parents Were Weird (PG)
 1 p.m./9 p.m. Coupe De Ville (PG-13)
 11 p.m. Bright Lights Big City (R)

Sakura Theater

Friday

7 p.m. M.C. Perry High School Concert
 10 p.m. Snatch

Saturday

4 p.m. The Emperor's New Groove
 7 p.m. Snatch
 10 p.m. 15 Minutes

Sunday

4 p.m. The Wedding Planner
 7 p.m. 15 Minutes

Monday

7 p.m. Snatch

Tuesday

7 p.m. The Wedding Planner

Wednesday

7 p.m. 15 Minutes

Thursday

7 p.m. M.C. Perry Elementary School Quiz Bowl

Snatch(R)

Rated R for strong violence, language and nudity. (103 minutes)

In "Snatch," a botched diamond heist leads to a wild and tangled adventure involving gangsters, boxers, and a detailed look at the London underground. A stylized work with a gritty urban soundtrack and a cast of intricately developed characters, this film is a welcome follow-up to director Guy Ritchie's earlier lock, stock and two smoking barrels.

The Wedding Planner(PG-13)

Rated PG-13 for language and some sexual humor. (104 minutes)

In "The Wedding Planner," Jennifer Lopez plays a peppy career woman who is great at what she does: she can turn any wedding into the perfect romantic event. But when she begins to fall for the groom (Matthew McConaughey) in one of the weddings she's planning, all of her foundations are shaken, and she realizes that maybe her own life lacks love.

15 Minutes(R)

Rated R for strong violence, language and some sexuality. (120 minutes)

Robert De Niro is a police detective investigating a brutal murder committed by a psychopath who was seeking his 15 minutes of fame. As media sources are pulled into the case, a sensational atmosphere develops. Television reporters and tabloid journalists devour and exploit each new detail, obscuring the truth. Written and directed by John Herzfeld, "15 Minutes" is a driving mystery-suspense thriller.

This schedule is submitted by the Sakura Theater and is subject to change. Comments can be directed to MCCS at 253-4003.

Iwakuni's Theaters

Kokusai:

March 31 - April 13
 "Proof of life" - 11 a.m.,
 1:30 p.m., 4 p.m., 6:30 p.m.,
 (Sat. only) 9 p.m.

New Central I:

March 30, April 1-8
 No English Movies
 March 31
 "Hannibal" - 5:40 p.m., 8 p.m.,
 10:20 p.m.

New Central II:

March 30 - April 23
 "Cast Away" -
 3:20 p.m., 6 p.m.,
 (Sat. only) 8:40 p.m.

New Central III:

March 31 - mid April
 "Meet the Parents" - 5 p.m.,
 7 p.m., 9 p.m.

Education



Test Schedule

Tuesdays/

- Fridays** - College Level Examination Program
- DANTES Subject Standardized Test

(Registration opens at 7:45 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. each day.)

- April 18** - ACT Examination
April 19 - Scholastic Assessment Tests
April 23 - Electronic Data Processing Test
April 25 - Defense Language Aptitude Battery
- Defense Language Proficiency Test
April 26 - Armed Forces Classification Test

There is no fee for military personnel; civilians pay: CLEP \$46, DANTES \$27, ACT \$38 and SAT \$39. Call Education Services at 253-3855 or stop by the Community Services Building, Room 101. They also offer the GED \$36.

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration will be held from April 30 until May 4 at M.C. Perry Elementary School from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Pick up registration packet from the school office after April 16 to be completed prior to April 30. You may download the forms from www.perry-es.pac.odododea.edu. In addition to the completed registration packet, the child's passport, a copy of the sponsor's orders and the area clearance are required. School cannot make copies of document from older sibling's files. Call 253-3327.

School Re-registration

Parents of children, who are currently enrolled at M.C. Perry Elementary School and are returning to the 2002, should come to the elementary school from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. to re-register your child. For more information call 253-3327.

Community



Alcoholics Anonymous

Alcoholics Anonymous open meetings are held on Sunday at 7 p.m. and Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. A closed meeting is held each Monday at 11:30 a.m. All meetings are held in Room 103 at Building 1104. For more information call 31-8428.

Medical Clinic Health Promotions

Tobacco Cessation Courses will be held on April 18, 20, 25, 27, May 23, 25, 30 and June 1. Cholesterol, nutrition and hypertension counseling will also be offered on an individual basis by calling the Branch Medical Clinic at 253-3266.

M.C. Perry School

North Central Association Visit

Matthew C. Perry will be going through an intensive accreditation process on April 30, May 1 and 2. A North Central Association team will be examining all aspects of the school during this process. The team wants to talk to a group of parents as part of their visit. Those who would

like to be part of this process should call 253-5448 and leave your name.

Band and Choir Concert

Matthew.C. Perry and E.J. King (from Sasebo) schools will present a band and choir concert today from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Sakura Theater. Call 253-5448/5449.

HRO Formal Training Opportunities

The station CHRO will present three training opportunities the week of May 14-18.
—Dealing with Difficult People - May 14
—Problem Solving - May 18
—Civilian Personnel Management - May 15-17
All three classes will be held in Building 411, Room 121. For more information call 253-6834 or stop by Building 360, Room 29.

Marine Corps Community Services

MCCS Bazaar

The MCCS Bazaar will be held today from 4 to 6 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Over 40 vendors will present wares for sale. Credit cards, U.S. dollars and checks are accepted.

Active Duty Appointments

The Main Exchange Beauty Shop has set aside three-nights-a-week for active duty only: Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Schedule appointments by calling 253-4708.

Community Bulletin Board

The bulletin board in the concourse of Crossroads Mall is available to all air station personnel. Post notices of items for sale, event information, community information, and more. This high visibility board is located in front of the Community Bank ATM in Crossroads Mall, open seven-days-a-week, 24-hours-a-day.

Spouse Leadership Seminar

The Spouse Leadership Seminar is scheduled for Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. This seminar will be provided free of charge to Marine Corps spouses who are interested in developing their leadership roles. To encourage participation, non-appropriated fund and U.S. civilian employees may opt to attend as an alternate place of work, subject to supervisory approval, for the duration. Call 253-3754 by today to register.

Job Fair Prep

Career Resource Management Center will offer classes to prepare for the April 24-26 Job Fair at Camp Foster and Kadena Air Base, Okinawa. Classes include basic resume writing, job interview and job fair preparation. The fair is open to active duty personnel, DoD civilians, retirees and family members. Call 253-6439.

New Family Brief

Family members new to Iwakuni are invited to the family brief on April 5 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Call 253-3311 to register.

National Library Week

In celebration of National Library Week, Sun-

day to April 7, the library will hold a special story time on April 6, and other events, including a drawing for prizes. Stop by the library for details.

Flea Market

The MCCS will hold a flea market on April 7 in the MAC Dome. Go to the Sakura Theater on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to reserve and pay the \$5 fee for a table. Call 253-6184.

Fashion Show

Club Iwakuni will hold a "Spring in Paris" dinner buffet and fashion show on April 7 at 5 p.m., open to all ranks. For reservations call 253-3237.

Talent Show

Sign up for the April 28 talent show on weekdays from 1 to 4 p.m., between Monday and April 18 at the Sakura Theater. Call 253-6184.

Essay Contest

The MCCS Preview holds an essay contest through May 1 under the theme "My Most Memorable Experience in Japan." First prize includes publication in the magazine and \$100 in MCCS gift certificates. Call 253-6373 or visit www.mccsiwakuni.com.

Playmorning

Children ages 1-6 and their parents are invited to Playmornings on Tuesdays from 9:30 to 11 a.m. in Building 589's Community Room. Call 253-6553.

Chapel Services



Chapel News

(1) Chapel Annex (2) Marine Memorial Center

Roman Catholic

Saturday	5:30 p.m.	Mass	(2)
Sunday	9 a.m.	Mass	(2)

Protestant

Saturday	9:30 a.m.	Seventh Day Adventist	(1)
Sunday	10 a.m.	Church of Christ	(2)
	10:30 a.m.	General Protestant	(2)
	noon	Gospel Service	(2)
	noon	United Pentecostal	(2)

Latter Day Saints

Sunday	12:30 p.m.	Service	(1)
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Jewish

Friday	6 p.m.	Shabat	(2)
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For information regarding divine services, religious education or any other Command Religious Program/Chapel activity call the station Chapel at 253-5218. For information on Jewish services call Mark Zeid at 082-231-4008 after 6 p.m. or call the station Chapel.

Seder for Passover

Community Seder for Passover will be held on April 13. For more information call Mark Zeid at 082-231-4008 after 6 p.m. or the station chapel. While there is no fee involved, reservations are required to attend.

Sports Briefs

Weed Control

Torii Pines Golf Course will close on Monday and Tuesday for weed control application. If the weather is inclement, the weed control will be applied April 9 and 10. For more information call 253-3402.

Course Closed

Torii Pines Golf Course will be closed to all patrons except participants of MWSS-171 golf tournament on April 6 from 8 a.m. until the conclusion of the tournament.

Youth Baseball

Youth baseball registration is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in the Main Gym until April 6. Youth 5 to 14 years old may participate. Call 253-3239.

Resumes Accepted

Athletics accepts resumes for varsity

men's basketball coach and for varsity men's softball coach through April 6. Status of Forces Agreement personnel age 16 and older may apply. Call 253-5777.

Kintai Marathon

The 35th Annual Kintai Marathon will be run aboard the air station April 14. The deadline for SOFA personnel is extended to April 6. The fee is \$15. Entry is open to everyone age 16 and older. Volunteers are needed from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the day of the event. Volunteers receive a T-shirt and a hot meal. For more information call 253-5654.

Wallyball Tourney

Athletics will hold a wallyball tournament April 7 at 10 a.m., open to air station personnel age 16 and older. Players will meet on Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the Main Gym. Call 253-5777.

The Scoreboard

U.S. Forces-JMSDF Goodwill Swim Meet

100m Freestyle

(29 and younger) - McCleary (H&HS)

(30 and older) - Nagira (JMSDF)

50m Backstroke

(29 and younger) - McCleary (H&HS)

(30 and older) - Nishizono (JMSDF)

100m Breaststroke

(29 and younger) - Omota (JMSDF)

(30 and older) - Ueno (JMSDF)

Kickboard Relay - JMSDF

200m Ind. Medley Relay

(29 and younger) - McCleary (H&HS)

400m Rank Relay - JMSDF

Brick Relay - MAG-12

200m Medley Relay - JMSDF

50m Swim Qual.

(29 and younger) -

McCleary (H&HS)

(30 and over) - Yourowski

(MAG-12)

Free Through Race -

H&HS

200m Kayak Relay -

MAG-12



Basketball brings cultures together

by Cpl. Joe Lindsay
Torii Teller Staff

The 10 to 12 year old Iwakuni All-Stars split a pair of basketball games against two Japanese teams Saturday at the Main Gym, losing a heartbreaker to Yanai in the first game 26-24, but bouncing back to defeat Nada 54-18.

But the won and loss columns weren't the primary motivation for the games.

"This was all about two cultures coming together and speaking a language they could both understand - basketball," said

Thomas Williamson, Iwakuni All-Stars head coach. "It was a great experience for our kids to get to play against a different culture, and hopefully to understand and relate to one another."

Williamson wasn't the only one who seemed to feel that way.

"My players were very happy to come to the base and meet Americans their own age," said Shogo Nakano, Yanai head coach. "I believe it was a worthwhile exchange for both sides because it made every one realize we are more similar than different."

Well, maybe not when it comes to speed.



"We tried to run faster than the American team," said Yanai guard Ryoji Nomura. "Every time we got the ball we tried to go as fast as we could to score."

"We got thrown off by the quickness of their players in the first game," said Jacob Williamson, All-Star point guard. "They really used the fast break to their advantage and got a lot of easy buckets off transition points."

The same could not be said of the second game against Nada.

"We definitely made some adjustments," said head coach Williamson. "I told our players to re-focus on defense and we went with a press the second game."

The tactic worked, as Nada was stymied by the full court pressure and couldn't convert the fast break opportunities as their counterparts had done in the first game.

The All-Stars also got their offense into gear against Nada, as center Qunika Benton paced the way with a game-high ten points, followed by guard Terry Alexander's eight point effort.

"We finally got our offense together," said head coach



Williamson of the second game, "but defense was really the key."

According to head coach Williamson, the basketball exchange is an annual event that he hopes will continue.

"It's just a great opportunity that promotes friendship between nations," he said.



photo by Cpl. Joe Lindsay

Center Yuuichi Ironaka of Yanai shoots over Iwakuni All-Star guard Jacob Williamson, left, and center Qunika Benton in Yanai's 26-24 victory at the Main Gym Saturday.

Swim meet strengthens friendships

by Cpl. Kurt Fredrickson
Torii Teller Staff

Two American teams took home eight gold medals, while the Japan Maritime Self Defense Force team took home one less during the U.S. Forces – JMSDF Shinzen Swim meet March 16.

Overall JMSDF took home more medals than anyone else, and the Headquarters

Squadron team took home second with Marine Aircraft Group 12 finishing up third.

The H&HS team dove right in with Heath McCleary, H&HS swimmer finishing the 100-meter freestyle in 1 minute and 1 second to take first place. McCleary took home four of the five gold for the H&HS team.

The JMSDF team took the more than 30-year-old 100-meter freestyle, but the station team came back with McCleary taking the 50-meter backstroke. For the rest of the morning JMSDF took the gold and the H&HS team just couldn't make it back into first place.

"The reason for the competition was to promote relations with the JMSDF," said Kevin Crone, H&HS swimmer. "We didn't get to talk to them because of the language barrier, but we all competed and enjoyed the presence of each other."

The competition was an all day event and combined competitive swimming with events that would never be found in an Olympic

competition.

"The first half was individual competitions," said Eric Hogue, H&HS swimmer. "The afternoon was more team oriented events and catered to some of us who are not strong swimmers."

Afternoon events included kayak relays, the brick relay and the kickboard relay.

Although it was a competition, the focus was not on winning but rather having a good time, according to Crone.

"Anybody could have come out and competed," Hogue said. "I wasn't sure what to expect going into it. I just thought some of the

events would be interesting. It turned out to be more fun. I'd definitely do it again."

Although JMSDF went home with the most medals overall, everyone went home with something.

"It gave us a chance to relax and have some friendly competition," Crone said. "It was a good morale builder."



photos by Cpl. Kurt Fredrickson

Carey Green, MAG-12 swimmer, competes during the U.S. Forces - JMSDF Shinzen Swim Meet March 23.



Racers cut through the water during the 100-meter freestyle race which began the U.S. Forces - JMSDF Shinzen Swim Meet March 23.